

Welland

Hanging 10 Surfing on Lake Erie

Horsing around Makeshift ponies key in fundraiser Page 11

TERRY FOX RUN: More than \$11,000 raised

Up in smoke Suspicious fire causes \$100K in damage

Eating fresh
City workers battling the bulge Page 12



INPORTANEWS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2011

SERVING PORT COLBORNE · WAINFLEET · SHERKSTON · LOWBANKS · ISSUE NO. 38 VOLUME 15

For news updated daily see www.inportnews.ca

■ WAINFLEET: Fair underway Sunny forecast for fair

FDDIF CHAIL InPort News Staff

WAINFLEET - Sunflowers need a lot of sun and care in order to

It's so simple people of all ages can grow sunflowers. At the Wainfleet Fall Fair, it's encouraged. And there's prize money involved

In keeping with the events' theme this year: Sunflowers - Watch Us Grow, the Wainfleet Agricultural Society, the organizers of the annual fair, have incorporated a sunflower growing contest to its list of attractions for 2011.



LINDSAY COSTELLO InPort News Photo

Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badawey got more than a little off the top when Coun Bill Steele demonstrated his skills as a barber prior to Sunday's Terry Fox Run in Port Colborne. The mayor was among many people who had their heads shaved in raise money for cancer research.

Hair today, fundraising for cancer tomorrow

LINDSAY COSTELLO For InPort News

PORT COLBORNE - Bald is beomtiful

The lakeside city kicked off Terry Fox Day with a head shaving at H.H. Knoll Park prior to trekking across the city as part of the Marathon

Before setting out along the planned three-and five kilometre routes, a crowd gathered to watch participants lose their locks, including Mayor Vance Badawey and event organizer Nancy Salvage, who shaved her head

for the fifth year in a row. Last year Salvage organized a Guinness Book of World



in which 57 people participated and plans to gather 100 participants for the 35th annual Terry Fox

While this year was not about record breaking, many still stepped up to the plate. About a dozen signed up to have their locks shorn, while others made a spur-of-themoment choice to show their

Run

see TERRY FOX | page 2





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FALL FAIR

Festivities include several new draws

"We haven't had a sunflower growing contest in a while so we wanted to bring it back," said David Wyatt, president of the Wainfleet Agricultural Society. "It's quite easy to grow sunflowers. There are two types of sunflowers. Those that grow to six to seven feet tall, as well

as mini ones." The contest is open to all residents of Wainfleet and Port Colborne in two categories: preschool and elementary exhibitors and secondary and adult exhibitors.

Prizes will be awarded in each class for three criteria: largest sunflower head complete with stalk, best formed sunflower head complete with stock and tallest stalk complete with head at ground level

The first place winner will receive a voucher for seeds sponsored by Stokes along with \$3 in cash, Cash prizes will be awarded to the top

five winners This year's Wainflee Fall Fair started Thursday and runs to Saturday at the Wainfleet Arena and

New to the fair this year includes Anna's Inflatables. an exhibit by London Reptile Kingdom, displays by Niagara Antique Power Association, a race car simulator. Shriner's booth, stock car exhibit and a

fairgrounds.

We have many odd twists in the fair this year. The stock cars exhibit will be good. It promotes the local racing events. We hope to have a huge turn out for the rock climbing wall. Niagara Antique Power Association is always popular with the kids. There's a lot of neat stuff."

David Wyatt, president of the Wainfleet Agricultural Society

rock climbing wall. "We have many odd twists in the fair this year." Wyatt said. "The stock cars exhibit will be good. It promotes the

local racing events. We hope to have a huge turn out for the rock climbing wall. Niagara Antique Power Association is always

popular with the kids. There's a

lot of neat stuff." In addition to the new attractions there will be many returning favourites including the 4-H club and rabbit shows, antique tractor pulling, cattle show, demolition derby, hay rides, paintball,

parades and the corn eating contest to name a few. For those who can belt out a tune. Wainfleet Idol returns with expanded age groups with more opportunities to win cash prizes. Wyatt said the contest is open to participants in three categories:

aged seven to 12, aged 13 to 18 and aged 19 plus. Admission prices vary

depending on the day. On Sept. 22, entrance to the arena and midway is \$2 for adults and children over 12. while the tractor pull is \$5 for adults and \$2 for

On Sept. 23, seniors can get in for \$4 for the fair between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., while regular price for the fair is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children. Admission to the tractor pull

is \$15 for adults and \$5 for On Sept. 24, admission

is \$7 for adults and \$2 for

For a full listing of events or for more information visit: sites. google.com/site/ wainfleetfallfair

PORT CARES: Cruise collects food donations



Rachelle Anderson, Port Cares Reach Out Food Centre operations coordinator, accepts a large donation of nonperishable food items from Gord Gibbs, Niagara Rods and Rides cruise coordinator. The food was collected on Sept. 10 during the Niagara Rods and Rides annual cruise, in which 17 vehicles participated.

TERRY FOX

Port's event raises \$11.500

While pledges and donations were accepted, Salvage said she was focused on promote the spirit of Terry Fox rather than simply raising money for the foundation.

"I want people to have fun with this," she said. Salvage, who has been

organizing the event for the past eight years, said she wanted to ensure Fox's legacy lived on and believes he is still making an impact today. "Terry Fox is just as much a hero as he was 31 years ago,"

"If people are willing to come together and support the foundation and celebrate Terry, that is what I want to promote."

Salvage said the commu nity show its support again this year, adding that many

the cause with facts about Fox and the Terry Fox Foundation posted in the park. "It's nice to be doing it yet again," she said. "It just feels

formed teams in support of

friends and family who are

Port Colborne's Terry Fox

Run, which raised \$11,500.

also included draws, food and

a chance to learn more about

battling cancer.

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INPORTANEWS

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inport@wellandtribune.ca Ken Koyama, publisher, general manager Dave Johnson, Inport News senior reporter



■ourview

Talking poverty

Poverty needs to be taken seriously, said Rev. Jim Mulligan, a member of the Holy Cross Fathers at St. Kevin Church in Welland, last week, Mulligan, along with Port Colborne's Bridges Community Health Centre, launched a button and sign blitz encouraging all political parties and electoral candidates to make a commitment to ending poverty in the province in this decade. Bridges and St. Kevin are just two of a number of locations across the province that launched the campaign calling for a

poverty-free Ontario. Let's Vote for a Poverty Free Ontario is an initiative between the Social Planning Network of Ontario, Interfaith Social Assistance Reform Coalition and Poverty Free Ontario as a nonpartisan initiative to ask politicians to commit to a debate on poverty.

"Poverty is integrated into everything in life," said Mulligan. Mary Anne Feagan, a community health worker for Bridges, believes candidates should consider putting poverty on the agenda during the election. "There is a coloration between poverty and health," Feagan

said. "We just ask in a non-partisan way for this consideration." We agree with the two of them and whether people like to admit it or not, there is poverty all around us. When most people think of poverty, they immediately picture a starving child in an African nation or a Third World nation elsewhere in the world. But poverty isn't contained to the Third World, it's here in the First World as well.

With Niagara suffering massive job loss in the last decade, the number of people who have moved closer to the poverty line or fallen under it has increased.

Take a look at the increase in the use of food banks in Port Colborne and the surrounding areas and you'll see it.

People have to decide whether to pay the rent, gas and water bills or buy food these days. It's not a choice anyone should have to make

We encourage people to bring up the issue of poverty when candidates come knocking on their doors in the next couple of weeks before the election. Ask them what they'll do to help end poverty in the province

BADAWEY BALD

Mayor Vance Badawey stuck to his word and shaved his head last weekend at the annual Terry Fox Run in Port Colborne Badawev said he'd shave if \$1,000 was raised for the run. He was also joined by run organizer Nancy Salvage, who shaved her head for the fifth year in a row, and several others, Just after the head shave, those taking part in the Terry Fox Run made their

way through the city on three, five and I0 kilometres routes. Salvage said there were teams formed in support of friends and family who are battling cancer.

Those teams and individual participants and the head shave helped bring in a total of \$11,500 last Sunday. That's the most that's been raised by the run in the city. We'd like to congratulate all those who took part in the run and hope that next year, they can bring in even more to help in the fight against cancer.

III I'VE REEN THINKING

Parents today are tame citizens

FR. DAVID GRAHAM SCOTT St Ignatius of Antioch Orthodox Church

hildren mattered to the Lord lesus him and told his ambitious disciples that unless they were converted and became as little children, they would by no means enter into the kingdom of heaven.

He said, "Whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever receives one little child like this in my name receives me" (Matthew 18:2-5)

Then Christ said, "But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea." Clearly C.S. Lewis was right to say that Christ was not a tame lion. Yet it seems to me that many parents today are tame citizens, letting

governments do anything they like without so much as a raised eyebrow. The latest educational initiative of the McGuinty Government is the Equity and Inclusive Education (EIE) strategy, which all Public and Catholic school boards Former Education Minister Kathleen Wynne, who oversaw the EIE policy,

told Xtra on Sept. 7 that the Liberal Government will not back down from imposing its EIE policy on Ontario schools. She said that the education system is the "single most important"

means of tackling "homophobia" among today's youth. The EIE strategy urges school boards to participate in the Gay Pride parades,

use texts by homosexual authors, and introduce gay-straight alliance clubs in the schools, In July, Premier Dalton McGuinty said that implementing homosexual clubs is "not a matter of choice." At the same time the Ministry of

Education insists that such clubs must not help students to "reform their sexuality Meanwhile the American College of Pediatricians cautioned educators about the management of students experiencing

same-sex attraction or exhibiting symptoms of gender confusion, saying that a pro-homosexuality attitude could disrupt a natural uncertainty in youth for the worse College President Dr Thomas Benton

told American school superintendents that schools should not seek to develop policy which affirms or encourages nonheterosexual attractions among students who may merely be experimenting or experiencing temporary sexual confusion. Such premature labeling could lead some adolescents to engage in homosexual behaviors that carry serious physical and mental health risks.

But the Toronto, Hamilton and other school boards have already moved to integrate their "sexual diversity" instruction throughout the curriculum in response to the EIE policy. And the Toronto and Hamilton boards forbid parents from removing their children

from the classroom during sexual diversity instruction.

But according to the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights Article 26.3, "Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children," I ask. Do Ontario children belong to the state or to their parents?

Words like equity and inclusiveness and diversity may sound like sweetness and light, but are they not masking the issue that the Ministry of Education is turning education into state propaganda as far as moral and sexual issues are concerned?

While on contract with the Ministry of Education, David Walpole was asked if they would be open to another perspective on how to approach homosexuality in schools. He said, "No. it's too late. The program is planned. it's been sent out. We're not debating whether things are right or wrong, we're simply presenting what is a requirement for boards to do within their policies."

So the McGuinty government — in agreement of the NDP of course — is going full steam ahead in its EIE policy without regard to parents' rights, without regard to right or wrong, and without regard to Christ's warning not to cause one of his little ones to sin. The question now is whether Ontario parents and grandparents will tamely accept more of this misguided experimentation and social engineering on our kids, or will instead vote for change.

■readers'views

Not a crime to be young I take offense to the letter Not safe for

pedestrians from Sept 13, in which the writer states the usual teenager rejoinder to being yelled at is f-off.

I work at the youth drop-in centre in Port Colborne, As part of my daily routine I work with young people all the time and some of them are even those dreaded bike riders that have people in an uproar. Some of them think our wheelchair

ramp is a great place to bike and skateboard and I have to politely remind them even though I appreciate them coming to the drop-in I cannot allow them to use to the rails as a skateboard park. More often than not they respond to me with, "Sorry man," and move on. I have had the occasional bad word and/or attitude thrown my way but believe me when I say this is the exception. The ageism and yes, even sexism

against young men that goes on in

this canalside town is embarrassing, Thankfully it is a small number of people who feel this way but they always seem to be the most vocal. A number of people see young boys on

bikes and prejudge them, assuming they are nothing more than troublesome people looking to create havoc. Now, that is not to say that some of them are not innocent but most of the young people I come across are fine young people who merely want something to do in Port Colborne. As I write this letter I see a number of

people riding bikes on the sidewalk next to where I work and most of them so far have not been younger folks at all. Later on that will change as the kids come out after supper to hang out in

front of city hall but the most dreadful activity then is the guys chilling and talking to their buds. I also assume the writer is joking about

not allowing males to drive bikes or cars until they are 30. Talk about painting a

whole segment of society with one brush because of the actions of a minority. If I could not drive before I was 30 I would have been forced to find work within walking distance of my home so I could take care of my family. I find it ironic this letter was next to one about seeking equal treatment because there are a number of people who are not receiving equal treatment in Port Colborne because they are being dis-

Their crime? Being young and male. Letting the actions of a few people determine how you feel about the rest of a particular segment of society is prejudicial and it is those kind of attitudes we need to rid ourselves of if we wish to live in a society of harmony. Call me an idealist if you wish but that

is what I hope and work for. **Bradley Shea**

Part Calharne

criminated against.

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COLUMN

An artistic presence is being painted in Port

LINDSAY COSTFLLO Special to InPort News

ome to several art studios and galleries, the City of Port Colborne is developing a strong artistic presence. Whether found in home studios or on display at the library, art is all around Arts Place Gallery, at 714 King St.,

is frequently updating its space in order to accommodate new work and features a new artist each month. Joyce Honsberger, gallery founder

and coordinator, is presenting her new exhibit, Human Edges, until Oct. 9. She began developing the concept a year ago and has created various pieces

that explore human perspectives. Human Edges uses abstract figures with accented edges and includes three different mediums and a variety

of colours The focus of the exhibit is a series of larger paper-pulp paintings that can be seen hanging on the main wall. Wire sculptures surround the space and create a contrast with these paintings

Having debuted the pieces on Sept. 1. Honsberger also held an opening reception on Sept. 11. Although she has exhibited at many galleries, this is her first time displaying her own work at Arts Place

Honsberger said the pieces were created very spontaneously and that she likes the dynamic that is created when a variety of pieces are displayed

in the same space. For her, the way her work is displayed is just as important as the

work itself. "If you really articulate the space, it defines the space'

To Honsberger, each piece is unique. "They all have their own special characteristic, appeal and vision," she

She said it is important to read a piece of artwork and take time to see each piece for what it's worth. "I think they're timeless."

While artists are filling their canvases, the Port Colborne Operation Society is working to fill auditoriums as the group gears up for their annual











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Auditions draw 'a lot of talent'

Although the tale of little

members

orphan Annie won't hit the lakeside city until 2012, the group is already hard at work piecing together the show.

Having held registration nights over the past two weeks to introduce aspiring actors to the play's material, the group was able to take the next step over the weekend as they met potential cast

Auditions were held over three days as the directors sought to fill the show's ten main mles. Annie calls for a variety of cast members as it features both adult and child

Meeting in Bethel Hall, the group of directors began to narrow down the field before heading into the callback phase and hoped to have their final choices by this

aive usu something to

COUPLES

"We've seen a lot of talent. said Musical Director Fave Been of the prospects. With acting, singing

and dancing all main cast requirements, performers need to be triple threats. making roles difficult to fill but the directors agreed the audition process had gone

Been said this production would be one that could draw a crowd "This is an audience

grabber," she said

"Anytime you have kids in a production, it's a good draw," added President Emily Denney of the familyoriented selection.

Although rehearsals are set to begin on Wednesday, the group is still looking for more chorus members and dancers to help fill the stage with song

LINDSAY COSTELLO InPort News Photo Joyce Honsberger, founder and co-ordinator of Arts Place Gallery, is exhibiting her abstract

work at the King St. gallery until Oct. 9.

and dance. Backstage hands are also needed to assist with sets, props, makeup and

Those interested in fulfilling any of these positions can contact Pat Ballin by calling 905-834-9307. "It's a good winter hobby."

organization.

said Been. "We would love to have more people. For more information on the production, visit www. portcolborneoperaticsociety.



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Residents asked if they trust the NHS

InPort News Staff

WELLAND - Niagara residents are being asked to share their views about the Niagara Health System. They can have a say about

how trustworthy they feel the NHS is by filling out an online survey at www. legerweb.com/NHS.

Terry Flynn, an assistant professor with McMaster University's department of communication studies and multimedia, said the NHS contracted the university in July to determine how Niagara residents feel about the way the bulk of their hospitals are being managed.

Since then, he's put together a team of students and designed a research program to obtain the information

MAC 36

He said they're conducting a "quantitative study" calling about 600 people served by the NHS, similar to the way political polls are conducted. They're also conducting a qualitative study, talking to about 30

community leaders ranging from politicians, health care professionals and advocacy In addition, he said the research team chose to offer the online poll to ensure that anyone who wanted to

participate had the opportunity to do so. It includes the same questions as those being asked in the telephone survey

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The survey will be available online until Sept. 28. "I think people genuinely have a voice and we want those voices to be heard," Flynn said, adding the university's research ethics

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I get to see health care delivery right up front and it's pretty complex. It's not like a factory where they're producing the same widgets everyday. because everybody's case is different."

Terry Flynn, an assistant professor with McMaster University's department of communication studies and multimedia

hoard has received and

approved the study. There are about 40 survey questions in total. Respondents are asked to rate on a scale of one to five whether they agree or disagree with the statements. People can also choose "I

don't know/prefer not to answer" in response to the questions. A few of the questions include

"The management of the Niagara Health System gives people like me enough say in the decision-making pro-

cess," and, "I think that the Niagara Health System succeeds by stepping on other people

The survey also includes a few areas where respondents can write about their thoughts and experiences regarding the NHS.

The results of that survey will be released publicly Oct. 12, and will be posted on the NHS web-site www. niagarahealth.on.ca/. Flynn has recently been spending a lot of time in hospitals in his area, after a close family member had a stroke.

we have to use it," he said.

"I get to see health care delivery right up front and it's pretty complex. It's not like a factory where they're producing the same widgets everyday, because everybody's case is different. The hard part about it is sometimes things happen that even medical science can't understand why. People want certainties and guarantees and sometimes in life we're not able to provide

happy with health care until

"For the most part, we're abenner@wellandtribune.ca



There's No Need to Suffer!

The cold and in second coming. Soon enough we'll The cold and flu season is be surrounded by coughing, sneezing, sniffling and suffering. With the growing strength of viruses and infectious diseases, the potential for you to catch what's going around, is almost a given.

When you do get sick, about the only thing recommended nowa-

days is that you take medication and wait it out. Unfortunately, the use of antibiotics is not showing any promise in the battle against these deadly bugs. As with all infectious diseases, including the common cold (also known as the coranavirus), anyone with a weak immune system is more likely to get sick and stay sick longer.

Here's what you can do...

· Wash your hands. The likelihood of contracting or spreading disease is greatly reduced with proper hygiene.

 Good nutrition supports a strong immune system. Eat plenty of fresh fruits, vegetables, legumes, lentils, whole grains, nuts and seeds. They are rich in healthful antioxidants, phytochemicals and nutrients to nour-

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EMPTY: Former bowling alley burns



Windows are boarded up at a four-unit building on Welland St. in Port Colborne, which sustained more than \$100,000 damage in a Saturday night fire.

Fire still under investigation

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE - A fire at 185 Welland St. in Port Colborne last Saturday night has been labelled suspicious by police and firefighters. The fire broke out at around 9 p.m. in

an empty building that had four apartments, but only one occupant who was not home at the time of the blaze. "We're still sorting through it. It is

suspicious circumstances, but we're still investigating," fire prevention officer Mike Bendia said.

It took about 20 firefighters seven and a half hours to douse the blaze because the building had been through so many renovations over the years. "Welland assisted with some man-

nower to help. It was a very extensive overhaul because it was a very old building — lots of false floors and all that kind of stuff," he said.

The building, that used to be a bowling alley, sustained more than \$100,000 worth of damage, said Bendia, who suggested the building may not be salvageable.

'There's a big hole in the roof. There has been extensive damage here. Two units were damaged (by the fire) and the other two have heavy smoke and water damage," he said.

The Ontario Fire Marshal's office was on scene Monday morning to help investigate. The building was been secured by Niagara Regional Police

'We're just going to board it up and dig in tomorrow when the fire marshal comes down," Bendia said.

Police are asking anyone who has any information to call Niagara Regional Police, at 905-735-7811, ext. 3354, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS).



■ CAMPAIGN: Kicks off today

Change starts here for United Way

InPort News Staf

WELLAND - Change starts at home for the United Way of South

The non-profit organization that serves Welland, Port Colborne, Wainfleet and Pelham has a number of events lined up in the next few weeks as it prepares to launch its 2011 fundraising

With the theme of "Change Starts Here" the organization will begin its fundraising campaign by focusing on three strategic areas: Poverty to Possibility; Healthy People, Strong Communities; and All That Kids and Families Can Be.

Executive director Peter Papp said as in last year's campaign,

there is no set fundraising goal for 2011. Rather the focus will be maintained on the 17 agencies the United Way supports.

"We're working on defining what programs we can support through those three key areas," Papp said of

the campaign focus "It's a transitional time and we will work through this. We will continue to support the agencies we do every year.

The campaign will be officially launched Friday, Sept. 23 with the annual campaign gala. The keynote speaker for the evening will be Wainfleet resident, author and humourist William Thomas.

On the night of the gala, Natasha Smagata, an individual that utilized many programs supported by the United Way will tell her story about the programs that helped get her life back on track, including com-

pleting high school and college and gaining a full-time position with the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

story the words will hang on to a lot of people," Papp said.



How did we make Voting Day easier? We made 10 more of them.

Advance Polle for the 2011 General Election are open between September 21 and 30, 10 AM - 8 PM local time.

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There have been some changes to advance poll locations For the most up-to-date listing in your erea, please visit elections.on.ca or cell 1.888.668.6683 (TTY: 1.866.479.1118).

> Flections Ontario

election briefs

GET ON THE VOTERS LIST

WELLAND - What hannens if you've never voted before? According to Elections Ontario, to be an eligible voter, residents must be a Canadian citizen, aged 18 years and older. live in an electoral district and have already voted

in a previous election.

Previous voters names

will have been registered on

a voters list. Before election

day registered voters should receive a registration card in the mail confirming their name on the list. The registration card entitles the resident to vote on election day. The card must be brought to polling

stations Elections Ontario states not being on a voters list can not prevent residents from participating on election day. There are two ways to get on a voters list On election day residents

can provide a document with proof of name and address at a local polling station to be added on a voters list.

Residents can also get a certificate to vote at their local returning office or advance poll location. Proof of name and residence must be given before election day to receive a certificate to vote

More information can be found at www wemakevotingeasy.ca

ADVANCE POLI LOCATIONS WFI LAND - For those

unable to vote on election night on Oct. 6, attending an advance poll is another option. All advance poll locations are open between 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the Welland riding.

There are nine locations: * Returning Office (27 Centre St.) in Welland, Sept.

* Club Roma (125 Vansickle Rd.) in Thorold, Sept. 26-30. * Club Capri (36 Cleveland

St.) in Thorold, Sept. 21-25. * Thor/Rice Plaza (30 Rice Rd.) in Welland, Sept. 21-30. * Christian Life Assembly (484 Barrick Rd.) in Port

Colborne, Sept. 21-30.

* Wainfleet Arena (31917 Park St.) in Wainfleet, Sept

* Brock University Student Alumni Building (500 Glenridge Ave.) in St.

Catharines, Sept. 28 and 29. * Nick Basciano Community Centre (131 Richmond St.) in







MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo Rachelle Anderson, Port Cares Reach Out Food Centre operations co-ordinator, and Bruce Ferri, owner of Thruwa Muffler in Port Colborne, are encouraging people to feed the

Main St. horses on Sept. 23 and 24

■ FOOD: Fundraiser for Port Cares

Horsing around for a good cause

MARYANNE FIRTH InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE -Bruce Ferri wants to collect a wagon-load of food.

After all there are plenty of horses on Main St. to help him get it down to Port

The owner of Thruway Muffler has decided to put the makeshift horses, which have become a novelty for residents and visitors alike.

to work

Ferri is hosting the inaugural Feed the Horses event on Friday, Sept. 23 and Saturday, Sept. 24. During those two days, people can drop off non-perishable food items for Port Cares at businesses where the horses are located.

The horses first began appearing on Main St. in mid-June after Ward 3 Coun. and Frank's Home Building Centre owner Frank Danch

905-735-3223

It's a wonderful event. It's great to see businesses come together to do this without us even requesting the help."

Rachelle Anderson

created Happy

The cardboard horse was meant to make a statement about the installation of bicycle

racks during the Main St. redesign. Since there are no bike lanes on Main St and bikes can't be ridden on the side-

walk, the rack outside the store was used as a hitching post for

The concept has since

we're out of or low on right now," said Rachelle Anderson, Port Cares Reach Out Food Centre operations co-ordinator. turned into a fun way

While all donations are welcome, the agency is most in need of crackers, granola bars, canned fruit, juice,

"There are a lot of things

rice and neaput butter. Port Cares also accepts monetary donations and grocery store gift cards,

which allow for the purchase of perishable items such as milk, eggs, meat and produce. "It's a wonderful event,"

Anderson said of Feed the Horses, "It's great to see businesses come together to do this without us even

requesting the help." Every donation "impacts those in need in the community," she added.

mfirth@wellandtribune.ca Twitter: @mfirthTribune



inside at businesses featur-Clear Out Specials

for businesses to show

their creativity by putting

together unique horses that

represent each individual

Mr Ed., of Thruway Muffler, for instance, is

The horses have gar-

nered plenty of attention

and Ferri is hoping to turn

that equine popularity into

donations for Port Cares.

Ferri encouraged youth to

come by and have a look

at the horses while feeding

them some non-perishable

goodies. Baskets will be

placed either outside or

made up of exhaust parts.

establishment.

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■ GETTING FIT: Subway helping out

Port Colborne city workers battling the bulge

VICTORIA GRAY InPort News Staff

12

PORT COLBORNE - Port Colborne City Hall pledges to get fit this winter. Everybody should be doing this - employees. employers the whole city, Bob Heil, the municipality's chief administrative officer,

Ioanne Ferraccioli, health services co-ordinator, for the city, and Andrea Hawkins have organized the event. Healthier You, for the past three years. Last year, 13 people took part for 13 weeks and lost more than 100 pounds between them. This year 23 municipal workers have committed to 20 weeks

of living a healthy active

"As health services co-ordinator I focus on the health

of others, not always on my own health, and everyone should," Ferraccioli said. When Bob Brochu, owner of the Subway outlet in downtown Port Colborne, found out city workers were trying to get fit, he and his

wife Silvana wanted to help.

Last week, city workers gathered the restaurant at the corner of Clarence and Elms Sts. to kick off their healthy lifestyle challenge.

The Brochu's presented each participant with a \$10 gift card and a pedometer to get them started, with the overall winner receiving a \$50 gift card.

"This program really fits

in with Subway's mandate. It has expanded to more than just healthy food, but encourages Canadians to make healthy lifestyle choices as well." Bob Brochu

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He also wants to start a contest for everyone in Port Colborne and surrounding area that is similar and incorporates Subway's new

Commit to Fit. The online program calculates the nutritional value of individualized sandwiches and gives access to nutritional experts, personal trainers and personal

life coaches. "We really can't enjoy anything else in life if we aren't mentally and physically fit. Everything else depends on that," Silvana Broch said.



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DAN GRABOWSKI

■ SCHOOLS

Interest growing in Student Vote initiative

VICTORIA GRAY InPort News Staff

WELLAND - For a student, understanding the democratic process can be intimidating, but high schools across Ontario are taking on the challenge in record numbers.

Four high schools and six elementary schools in Welland and Port Colborne join Student Vote record breaking 23,000 schools to participate in the student vote on October 4 and

"The best time to learn about democracy and citizenship is during elections," Lindsay Mazzucco, chief operating officer at Student Vote. "It's a teachable moment, it's real issues and real time. We believe it's the best time to learn, you can't learn citizenship out of a textbook. We believe the best way to learn is by doing it." Once a school has registered,

Student Vote will send the participating school an information package with resources and suggestions on how to engage students in the Stephanie Minor, a Grade 7 teacher

at the District School Board of Niagara Academy in Welland signed her school up because she believes it gives them and their families a better understanding of the issues in their community and the importance of voting.

"It's to create a culture of voting and create a culture of the importance of democracy and that everybody's vote counts," she said.

see SCHOOLS | page 13

SCHOOLS

Notre Dame hosts debate Sept. 29

FROM PAGE 12

A previous class used online resources to create blogs to discuss about an issue they cared about, using different par-

ties' platforms. "We want to teach them to be critical thinkers, we want an electorate that can ask good questions," she said.

Ionathan LePera, a Grade 10 and 11 law teacher at Notre Dame College School in Welland has always had a passion for politics and he and the social sciences department think the student vote is a great way to let students know politics can inspire positive change and keep students politically active in their

adult lives. "It's absolutely important (to educate students on the electoral process) especially when you see voter turnout,

you're lucky if you get 60%. By getting them involved in the process, right now, and making them realize that they are an important part of the process. Their voices deserve to be heard," he said.

The school is hosting a debate on Sept. 29, the day of their vote to give students a chance to meet politicians

and ask questions "I'm really hoping they might stay

politically active and maybe even go into office one day," he said. "We need to get those voter participation rates up too'

Student Vote is funded by Elections Ontario and free to participating schools. Mazzucco said schools can register to take part in the vote by calling their offices at 1-866-488-8775 or registering on the website www.studentvote.ca.



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VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo

The Welland-Pelham, Port Colborne-Wainfleet and Niagora Falls chambers of commerce hosted a Business After 5 event at the Niagora College Welland campus on Wednesday night to help unite business owners from all three chambers. The event offers networking opportunities for the business community, Members of all three organizations gathered to highly delights from the college's cultural program. Furtured from left are Welland-Pelham chamber president Aggle Glovannini, executive director Falls chamber, Donna Marfens-Samm, past president of the Port Colborne Wainfleet chamber, and Gord Hunchak, the college's director of marketing and communications.



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■inPortbrief

INTERSECTION CALLED

PORT COLBORNE — William
Augustine wants to see changes where
Elm and Park Sts. meet.
The Port Colborne resident shared
concerns of unsafe conditions at the
intersection during a recent council

Augustine detailed a number of incidents and collisions that have taken place at the location right by his house that is causing so much worry. "The main problem is it's hard to see traffic approaching from the north" he

told councillors.

As a result, cars often pull out too far into the intersection and are sometimes forced to reverse to avoid a

collision, he said.

Park St. runs parallel to a set of train tracks. The gradient on the road varies greatly on either side of the tracks.

which makes it difficult for drivers to see oncoming traffic. In the winter, snow piles make the

sight lines even worse, Augustine said. Ward 1 Coun. Bill Steele put forth a motion, which was approved, for staff to create a report to determine what can be done at the intersection to alleviate issues year-round.

SPOTLIGHT on service



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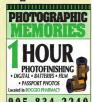
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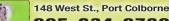
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As this is a working board, all Board members are expected to attend Shelter functions and to undertake some volunteer activities in addition to their serving on the Board.

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■ BLITZ: Bridges Community Health Centre taking part

'Poverty needs to be taken seriously'

EDDIE CHAU InPort News Staff

WELLAND - Amidst the sea of election signs on front lawns, there's one different sign that stands out. It doesn't ask residents to

support a certain candidate during the ongoing provincial election. Rather it asks people to vote for something It's a vote for a poverty free

Ontario. Last week, a number of locations across the province, including Welland's St. Kevin Roman Catholic Church and Port Colborne's **Bridges Community Health** Centre, launched a button and sign blitz encouraging

all political parties and electoral candidates to make a commitment to ending poverty in the province in this decade.

Let's Vote for a Poverty Free Ontario is an initiative between the Social Planning Network of Ontario, Interfaith Social Assistance Reform Coalition and Poverty Free Ontario as a nonpartisan initiative to ask politicians to commit to

a debate on poverty. "Poverty is integrated into everything in life," said Rev. lim Mulligan, a member of the Holy Cross Fathers at St. Kevin Church

"When kids aren't well it can be fixed to poverty. When people are sick and

go to the hospital, it can be related to poverty. Food bank visits are up because of poverty. Poverty needs to be taken seriously.

Mary Anne Feagan, a community health worker for Bridges Community Health Centre, said she hoped people receiving the signs will display them to show support. Feagan believes candidates should consider putting poverty on the agenda during the election.

"There is a coloration between poverty and health," Feagan said, "We just ask in a non-partisan way for this consideration."

echau@wellandtribune.ca Twitter: @EdChauTribune



representative from Community Living Port Colborne-Wainfleet: Port Colborne Ward 2 Coun Yvon Doucet and Mary Anne Feagan, a community health worker for Bridges Community Health Centre hold up signs promoting a vote for a poverty free Ontario.

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